

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 00248 161143Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 H-01 NSC-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06
PRS-01 EB-08 TRSE-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 /075 W
-----021254 161349Z /53

R 160955Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6456
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BBSR, LE
SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT: PROPOSED ARAB CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
MISSION TO U.S.

REF: 77 BEIRUT 6522
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1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL OF GENERAL UNION OF ARAB
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE ELIAS CHANTUS CALLED ON ECONOFF
JANUARY 13 TO SEEK DATA RE U.S. - MID-EAST TRADE. GHANTUS
SAID DATA NEEDED TO HELP PREPARE FOR ARAB CHAMBERS OF
COMMERCE TRIP TO U.S. PLANNED FOR APRIL 17 - MAY 1,
THE "120-MAN DELEGATION."

2. QUESTIONED HOW TRIP PLANS WERE PROCEEDING, GHANTUS SAID THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS. POLITICAL CONTRETEMPS AMONG ARAB STATES WOULD NOT NECESSARILY AFFECT BUSINESSMEN WHOSE FOCUS WAS ON BROADENING COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES AND U.S. GHANTUS STUDIOUSLY AVOIDED MENTION OF BOYCOTT OR U.S. LEGISLATION THROUGHOUT 35-MINUTE CONVERSATION.

3. GHANTUS SAID NEXT MEETING OF ARAB CHAMBER REPS WOULD TAKE PLACE FEBRUARY 4 IN AMMAN, WHERE PLANS FOR U.S. TRIP WOULD BE FINALIZED.

4. COMMENT: GHANTUS' OPTIMISM CONTRADICTS PESSIMISTIC VIEW OF BEIRUT COC PRESIDENT REPORTED REFTEL. ROSTER OF STATES ATTENDING AMMAN MEETING WILL DEMONSTRATE WHICH SHARE GHANTUS' VIEW THAT POLITICS AND BUSINESS ARE SEPARABLE SPHERES. GHANTUS' OPTIMISM FURTHER SUGGESTS THAT A RUMP DELEGATION, PERHAPS OF MODERATE STATES, MIGHT PRESS AHEAD WITH TRIP IF LESS MODERATE STATES DEFECT FROM THE PLAN.

PARKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 16 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: ARAB BOYCOTT: PROPOSED ARAB CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE MISSION TO U.S.
TAGS: BBSR, LE
To: STATE AMMAN
Type: TE
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